

The District 3 Slate



November 2001

County Supervisor Pam Slater

"The importance of stopping to give thanks resonates with as much significance now as it did then (in 1863)."

-- Supervisor Pam Slater



**County Supervisor
Pam Slater**

Dear friend:

This month we traditionally celebrate Thanksgiving, our first national holiday.

In 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday of November as a day to give thanks, the country was torn by the Civil War.

Today, we find our nation engaged in a much different war, but the importance of stopping to give thanks resonates with as much significance now as it did then.

The attacks on America during the past two months made each one of us acutely aware of what is important and how much we have to be thankful for, and we have so much for which to give thanks.

We can be thankful that we live in a country where we have the right to free speech, where we can fully support our leaders or express our opposition. We have the freedom to worship as we choose. We have the right against

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Time to get a flu shot, county officials say

Get a flu shot this year to prevent the flu, say County health officials.

But health officials do not recommend that you get a flu shot so you can tell if you have the flu or an anthrax-related illness.

Many other illnesses begin with flu-like symptoms. So if people get flu shots and still show flu-like symptoms, it may indicate that they have one of

these other illnesses and not anthrax, health officials say.

The "influenza season" in the United States is from November through April. People who have the greatest risk of severe complications from the flu are people who are 65 years old or older, and people who have long-term health problems with heart, lung or kidney disease, asthma, diabetes, or weak immune systems.



Shot: Supervisor Pam Slater gets her flu shot.

Just cruisin' North County

Supervisor Pam Slater is starting to wear out a path to Escondido.

Since the City of Escondido was added to District Three as part of the county's redistricting process, Slater has made a diligent effort to get to know the city's residents and become familiar with its concerns.

On a recent Friday night, Slater took part in Escondido's "Cruisin' Grand," a weekly event when classic cars from the '50s, '60s and '70s

Escondido Mayor Lori Holt Pfeiler and other city officials



Classic: Slater cruises Grand Ave.

were on hand to welcome Slater to the city during the event.

"It reminded me of the movie 'American Graffiti,'" Slater said.

Slater also traveled to Escondido to honor Edward Grangetto, Sr. as San Diego County Farmer of the Year.

Grangetto began farming in 1931 as a laborer and worked hard to start his own business, which now has four locations and more than 50 employees.



Slater & Grangetto

Traffic signals get BackUPS

All 130 traffic signals in the unincorporated areas of the County now have UPS (uninterrupted power supply) systems installed.

The new systems make intersections safer during electrical blackouts or when power is cut off for some reason.

"During the statewide electricity crisis, residents let us know this was one of their biggest concerns," Slater said. "Now if the power goes out, the battery back up will keep traffic intersections safe."

The County also switched to a different type of lights for traffic signals. The new lights, called LEDs (for light emitting diode) use about 10 percent of the power of standard incandescent bulbs, reducing demand.

The staff of Supervisor Pam Slater

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unreasonable searches and seizures, and the right to a trial before an impartial jury. We have the right to peacefully assemble.

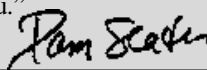
I encourage you to take some time for reflection this month. Pause a moment and treasure our constitutional rights, because it is clear that there are despotic regimes around the world -- regimes that bring violence to our people -- that do not acknowledge those rights.

In some nations, the rights that our founding fathers thought of as inalienable are no more than a dream.

In America no one can take our freedoms away from us, and if they tried, our fellow Americans always stand together to say no.

Pause a moment and let all that register. Appreciate what we have as Americans. Remember that when our nation protects itself in war our brave men and women in the armed forces are putting their lives on the line for all of us, not just for one religion, not just for one political party or one way of thinking.

Don't forget to say, "Thank you."



San Dieguito virtual reality

Whole new worlds are being created in San Dieguito with just a few clicks of a computer mouse.

Supervisor Pam Slater last month joined with representatives of the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Dieguito to celebrate the opening of a new computer technology center.

"The virtual reality technology now available at this center helps students with math skills, research, reading, critical thinking and teamwork," Slater said.

Slater allocated \$37,500 in county funding last year to help create the computer tech center.



Virtual scissors: Supervisor Pam Slater, right, joins with Barbara Harper, chair of the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Dieguito, and member Victor Fan to officially open the Virtual Reality computer lab at the club. In the photo at right, Slater good-naturedly decides to discover a virtual reality world created by students.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of San Dieguito are the only clubs in California to have this teaching aide.

When students complete a virtual reality production, they are actually able to enter their

virtual worlds and interact with their creations.

The Boys & Girls Club of San Dieguito, Polster branch, is located at 3800-A Mykonos Lane, next to Carmel Valley Middle School.

Report: San Diego no longer the "Meth capital"

San Diego County has relinquished its title as the "meth capital of the world", thanks to the efforts of the Board of Supervisors, the Sheriff's Department and county health officials.

The San Diego region has had a history of problems with methamphetamine, a highly addictive illegal stimulant also known as meth, crank or crystal.

"But several years ago, we decided that we would shed that reputation," said Supervisor Pam

Slater. "Now we're known for our comprehensive approach to solving the problem, and we have other cities and counties calling us to ask how we did it."

The Board of Supervisors in 1996 formed the Methamphetamine Strike Force and the team focused on prevention, intervention, treatment and interdiction.

In the Strike Force's most recent report, experts suggest that large meth lab operations have moved out of San Diego County.

The effort against meth also was helped by state and local laws that limited the retail sale of various cold remedies that contain chemicals used in making methamphetamine.

The Board of Supervisors also set up the Meth Hotline (1-877-NO2METH) so the public can anonymously alert law enforcement to meth problems.

Information from the hotline has resulted in 117 arrests and 54 convictions.

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